Response to: DELETE, DELETE, DELETE - GN Docket No. 25-133

The FCC regulatory requirment of license applicants to advise the Commission of felony convictions (AKA: the "felony question"), under the pretext of determining the character of applicants, is absurd and should be eliminated.

In 2017 the FCC began requiring all license applicants, including Ham Amateur Radio applicants, to affirm or deny any conviction (or plea bargain) of a "felony" offense in any federal, state or local court. This requirment has the effect of yet another layer of punishment and humiliation for people who have been convicted of some crime, no matter how long ago said offense took place, or even if it has been pardoned or expunged, sealed or even overturned by a court later.

The imposition of this requirement also has a chilling effect on persons who might be interested in the Amateur Radio services, but do not want to be subject to this scrutiny and humiliation...all over again...for their past. This requirement applies to new applicants and renewal applicants; some renewal applicants have actually lost their licenses after holding them for decades, having invested enourmous amounts of money and time into radio services and the HA services!

The Communications Act of 1934 does not require the FCC to ask this question nor does it preclude persons convicted of so-called "felonies" from holding any FCC license. The addition of the "felony question" and the bureaucratic over-reach that resulted was a radical departure from the historic norm for the FCC Licensing Branch and this ridiculous regulatory practice should be ended.